CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE
November 19, 1999

OMNIBUS PARKS TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1999

MURKOWSKI AMENDMENT NO. 2804

Mr. LOTT (for Mr. Murkowski) proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 149) to make technical corrections to the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996, as follows:

To the bill as reported:
On page 5, line 11, strike paragraph 4 through 11 and reinsert the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.
On page 5 at the end of section 101 add the following:
"(11) Section 103(c)(2) (110 Stat. 4099) is amended by striking "consecutive terms," and inserting "consecutive terms, except that upon the expiration of his or her term, an appointed member may continue to serve until his or her successor has been appointed."

BINGAMAN AMENDMENT NO. 2805

Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. Bingaman) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1298) to provide incentives for collaborative forest restoration projects on National Forest System and other public lands in New Mexico, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of the bill add the following:
"SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS. There are appropriated $5,000,000 annually to carry out this Act."

METHANE HYDRATE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1999

AKAKA AMENDMENT NO. 2806

Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. Akaka) proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 1753) to promote the research, identification, assessment, exploration, and development of methane hydrate resources, and for other purposes; as follows:

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.
This Act may be cited as the "Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 1999."

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.
In this Act:
(1) CONTRACT.—The term "contract" means a procurement contract within the meaning of section 6303 of title 31, United States Code.
(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—The term "cooperative agreement" means a cooperative agreement within the meaning of section 6305 of title 31, United States Code.
(3) DIRECTOR.—The term "Director" means the Director of the National Science Foundation.
(4) GRANT.—The term "grant" means a cooperative agreement within the meaning of section 6303 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 3. METHANE HYDRATE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

(a) IN GENERAL.—
(1) COMMENCEMENT OF PROGRAM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy, in collaboration with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director, shall commence a program of methane hydrate research and development in accordance with subsection (b).
(2) DESIGNATIONS.—The Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director shall designate individuals to carry out this section.

(b) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—
(1) ASSISTANCE AND COORDINATION.—In carrying out the program of methane hydrate research and development authorized by this subsection, the Secretary of Energy may award grants or contracts to, or enter into cooperative agreements with, institutions of higher education and industrial enterprises.
(2) RESEARCH AND TRAINING.—
(A) conduct basic and applied research to identify, explore, assess, and develop methane hydrate as a source of energy;
(B) assist in developing technologies required for efficient and environmentally sound development of methane hydrate resources;

(3) INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
(A) provide grants to institutions of higher education during the fiscal year 1999 to conduct research on matters of the program and develop technologies required for the efficient and environmentally sound development of methane hydrate resources.

(4) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—
(A) a methane clathrate that is in the form of a methane-water ice-like crystalline material and is stable and occurs naturally in deep-ocean and permafrost areas, and
(B) other natural gas hydrates found in association with deep-ocean and permafrost deposits of methane hydrate.